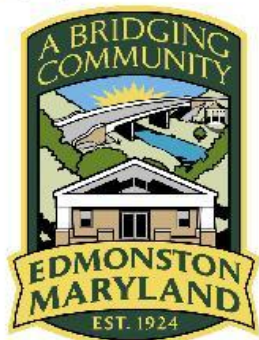


EDMONSTON NEWS



Town of Edmonston
5005 52nd Avenue
Edmonston, Maryland 20781
Telephone (301) 699-8806
Fax: (301) 699-8203
townhall@edmonstonmd.gov
www.Edmonstonmd.gov



Recent Legislative Actions by the Mayor and Council

Tuesday, October 12, 2010



1. Action to approve purchase of eight (8) sign pedestals and installation on Decatur St. at a cost of \$5,500 each. Motion by CM McCauley, seconded by CM Kerns; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor
2. Action to approve placement of a "STOP" sign northbound on intersection of 46th and Lafayette. Motion by CM McCauley, seconded by CM Kerns; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor

Monday, November 15th, 2010

1. Action on proclamation for support of Municipal Government Works Month. Motion by CM Farrish, seconded by CM Kerns; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor
2. Resolution of support for Port Towns CDC Resolution passed on July 2010 on War of 1812. Motion by CM McCauley, seconded by CM Giddens; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor

3. Adoption of MML Resolution supporting Re-Instatement of State Shared Revenues. Motion by CM Giddens, seconded by CM Kerns; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor
4. Action of approval to purchase a video camera security system as recommended by Cpl. Richard Hartnett, not to exceed the cost of \$1000. Motion by CM Giddens, seconded by CM McCauley; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor
5. Action of approval to purchase turkey gift baskets for needy families for the Holidays. Motion by CM Giddens, seconded by CM Farrish; Motion Approved. Mayor Ortiz in favor

Important Tax Information!!!

When filing your state income taxes, please write EDMONSTON in the block for city or town. This will assure you the Town of Edmonston will receive their fair share of your taxes paid to Maryland.

¡Información Importante de Impuestos!!!

Al archivar sus impuestos, escriba por favor EDMONSTON en el bloque para city o town. Esto le asegurará que la ciudad de Edmonston recibirá su parte justa de sus impuestos pagados a Maryland.

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Neighbor,

I hope this message finds you well. In case you missed it, our Decatur Green Street Dedication on November



9th was a tremendous success. It was a beautiful sunny day and we were joined by Senator Ben Cardin, Congresswoman Donna Edwards, Senator Paul Pinsky, County Executive Rushern Baker and 250 others.

Edmonston residents played a big role too, as Stephanie Duarte, 12, of 49th Avenue gave remarks about the benefits of the street, with other speaking roles for Bridget Pooley of Decatur Street, and Councilmembers Farrish and Kerns. We also made the television and print news, including front page of the Washington Post Metro section. You can see photos of the event on our website:

www.edmonstonmd.gov.

Together, we accomplished a great thing in this project. It has made our main street beautiful, safer, and environmentally responsible, as the polluted storm water from the street will not go into the storm drains and into the river. Also, the wind energy that powers the high-efficiency streetlights is not only "green" but it is our town lots of "green" - the lights themselves are 70% more efficient than before, and the wind energy is roughly 30% cheaper than before...which means that the energy of each light costs a fraction (about 20%) of what it did before.

The biggest success is that other towns and cities are taking our example. Bladensburg has secured more than \$5 million to make parts of 450 a green street. I have also heard that cities as far away as Houston as looking to duplicate our effort.

There is still more to do, we have yet to install the interpretive signs that will describe our innovations, and we hope to be able to re-route heavy trucks from coming down the street. In order to do that, we will need to change the grade of the street coming over the tracks nearly 46th Avenue. (In that process, we are also going to look into changing the railroad crossing gate, which may eliminate the need for the train to blow its horn. We will keep you posted.)

We are now going to turn our attention to Kenilworth Avenue. Earlier this year we passed an ordinance limiting "temporary commercial displays", in order to cut down on the amount of clutter on our streets from cheaply-made banners, signs and the placing of merchandise (such as tires and rims) outside. Most businesses have been supportive of this change as it uplifts the image of our community. We have been in discussions with the Maryland State Highway Administration on adding sidewalks, improving traffic patterns and improving the landscaping features. This project will take some time, but we hope to have a conceptual design available by spring.

If you have any ideas of feedback on these or other issues, please let me know. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Your Mayor,

Adam

Desde el Escritorio del Alcalde

Estimado Vecino:

Espero que este mensaje los encuentre bien. En caso de que se perdió lo, nuestra dedicación de la calle de verde de Decatur el 9 de noviembre fue un enorme éxito. Era un hermoso día soleado. Fuimos acompañados del Senador Ben Cardin, la Congresista Donna Edwards, el Senador Paul Pinsky, El Ejectivo de Condado de Prince Georges Rushern Baker y otros 250 personas. Algunos de nuestros residentes de Edmonston tuvieron un gran papel en explicar acerca de los beneficios de la calle como Stephanie Duarte, 12, de la Avenida 49, Bridget Pooley de la calle Decatur, y Concejal Farrish y Kerns. Logramos estar en la noticia tanto televisada como impresa, incluyendo la portada de la sección de metro de Washington Post. Puedes ver fotos del evento en nuestro sitio Web: www.edmonstonmd.gov



Juntos, hemos logramos un gran proyecto. Nuestra calle principal es ahora más hermosa, más segura y ambientalmente responsable, ya que el agua contaminada de la calle no irá en las alcantarillas y no pasara al río. También, la energía eólica que potencia las farolas de alta eficiencia es no sólo "verde" pero permite que la ciudad ahora es mas "verde" - las luces son 70% más eficiente que antes, y la energía eólica es aproximadamente un 30% más económico que antes... que significa que la energía de cada luz cuesta una fracción (alrededor del 20%) que antes.

El éxito mayor es que otros pueblos y ciudades están tomando nuestro ejemplo. Bladensburg ha conseguido más de 5 millones de dólares para convertir partes de la carretera 450 en verde. También he oído que ciudades tan lejanas como Houston, están buscando duplicar nuestro esfuerzo.

Hay aún más por hacer, tenemos todavía que instalar los rótulos interpretativos que describirán nuestras innovaciones y esperamos poder redirigir los camiones pesados de transitar de la calle. Para ello, tendremos que cambiar el grado de las calles procedentes sobre las vías cerca de la Avenida 46. También está en proceso lograr realizar unos cambios al cruce del tren. Esto puede que elimine la necesidad de que el tren a soplar su cuerno. Le mantendremos informados.

Nuestra atención estará centralizada en Kenilworth Avenue. Este año aprobó una ordenanza que limita el tiempo de rótulos comerciales, para así reducir la cantidad de rótulos en nuestras calles hecho de materiales baratos, al igual que controla la colocación de mercancía (tales como neumáticos) afuera. La respuesta ha sido favorable de la mayoría de los negocios ya que mejora la imagen de nuestra comunidad. Hemos estado en conversaciones con la Administración de Carreteras del Estado de Maryland para la instalación de aceras, mejorar los patrones de tráfico y como también mejora las áreas verdes. Este proyecto tomará algún tiempo, pero esperamos tener un diseño conceptual disponible en la primavera.

Si tienes cualquier idea de comentarios sobre estos u otros problemas, por favor déjeme saber. Espero que esta temporada de fiestas sea una segura y agradable.

Su alcalde,

Adam

From the Office of the Chief of Police

The following is a list of activities officers initiated or received a call requesting service or assistance

Police Department Activity	Current Month	Yearly to Date
Arrests	0	25
Drive While Intoxicated Arrests	0	24
Maryland Moving Violations Issued	53	847
Parking Citations	49	567
Recovered Stolen Autos	2	17
Traffic Violation Warnings	43	302
Vehicle Impounds	12	110
Vehicle Safety Repair Orders	3	79
Warrant Service Arrest	1	15
Accidents	0	47
Armed Suspects	1	7
Assaults	1	7
Assist Fire Dept/Other Agency/Code Enforcement	14	123
Burglar Alarms	9	56
Breaking & Entering Residential	1	5
Breaking & Entering Commercial	1	4
Carjacking	0	0
Check on Welfare of Resident	2	9
Customer Dispute Call	1	48
Death Investigation Call	0	0
Disorderly Persons	2	27
Domestic Disturbance	3	44
Fight in Progress	0	10
Hold up Alarm	1	2
Homicide	0	0
Identity Theft	0	4
Juvenile Complaints	1	4
Landlord Tenant	0	3

Dispute		
Loud Noise Complaint	2	21
Robbery	0	2
Security Checks of Premises	290	3279
Calls for Sounds of Gunshots	0	3
Stolen Auto Reports	0	4
Suspicious Persons	5	30
Suspicious Vehicles	2	22
Theft Reports	3	41
Calls for Unknown Trouble	2	12
Vandalism Reports	2	8
Calls for 911 Hang-ups	0	9
Total Calls for Service	173	4528

Note: not all calls for service result in a report being written!

Code Enforcement Activity	Current Month	Yearly to Date
Verbal Warnings Issued	27	252
Parking Tickets Issued	20	95
Municipal Citations Issued	4	13
Enforcement / Warning Letters or Notices Issued	37	189
Citizen Contact - Complaints or Assistance	8	54
Stop Work Orders Issued	2	11
Animal Complaints Investigated	6	44
Successful Compliances	14	318
Ongoing / Follow-up Investigations / Enforcement	21	218
Impounded Vehicles	2	6
Abatements	0	7
Total Code Violations	92	566

Safety Tips

The Holidays season is traditionally the busiest travel season of the year, and this year looks to be no exception. I urge you to plan ahead in anticipation of heavy traffic, and prepare for your trip by familiarizing yourself with the following driving safety tips:

- Continuously Monitor Current Traffic Conditions
- Schedule Extra Time to Get to Your Destination
- Vehicle Preparation: Make sure you have a full tank of gas before beginning your trip, and to have the proper emergency equipment on hand in the event your vehicle becomes disabled.
- Adjust Your Speed to Road, Weather and Traffic Conditions.
- Do Not Follow Too Closely: Following too closely is the cause of a very large percentage of rear-end crashes in moderate to heavy traffic. You should always allow at least one car length for every ten miles per hour between your car and the car in front of you.
- Avoid Drowsy Driving: Drowsy driving is a serious hazard that is the principal cause of thousands of motor vehicle crashes in the United States every year. Sleep deprivation is known to degrade all physical and mental capacities in similar ways to alcohol intoxication..
- Do Not Drink and Drive: Many Police departments will have extra patrols and sobriety checkpoints over the holiday weekend looking for impaired

operators. If your holiday plans call for celebrating with alcohol, plan on staying overnight or designating a driver.

- Ensure that all Occupants in Your Vehicle are Properly Restrained: Ensuring that everyone in your vehicle is properly restrained is the single most effective thing that you can do to keep yourself and your loved ones safe on the roads this holiday weekend.
- Dial 911 in Roadway Emergencies: Motorists who become disabled or encounter an emergency on the roadways should dial 911 and report their location and the nature of the emergency. You should always be aware of your location, noting the route you are traveling on and the number of the exit you most recently passed.



Consejos de Seguridad

La temporada navideña es tradicionalmente la temporada de viajes más activa del año y este año parece para no ser una excepción. Les exhorto a planificar y preparases para cualquier viaje que tenga con los siguientes consejos de seguridad:

- Monitoree continuamente las condiciones actuales tráfico.
- Tome tiempo extra hora de planificación para obtener para su preparación de vehículos de destino.
- Prepare su vehículo: mantenga el tanque lleno de gasolina y asegúrese que tener el equipo necesario en caso de tener alguna emergencia.
- Ajuste la velocidad según las condiciones de tráfico, y del tiempo.
- No siga demasiado pegado: Siempre debe permitir longitud de coche al menos una de cada diez millas por hora entre su coche y el coche delante de usted.
- No maneje si tiene sueño: Conducir con sueño es un gran peligro que es la principal causa de miles de accidentes de vehículos de motor en los Estados Unidos cada año.
- Si bebe no guíe.
- Asegúrese que todos los ocupantes vayan amarados con el cinturón de seguridad.
- Marque 911 en caso de emergencia en la carretera.



The Dirty Secrets of Green Lawns

Natalya Savranskaya

Is a Lawn a Sign of Social Irresponsibility?

A new report recently published by Isabel Junkin, of the Choptank River Eastern Bay Conservancy, takes a strong stance against the traditional American lawn on the grounds of the **damage lawns cause to watersheds**.

Junkin argues “a uniform green lawn is a social irresponsibility for the **waste of valuable resources** and the **degradation of public resources**.”

This suggests that **the American lawn needs a re-evaluation**. In 2006, an estimated **32 million acres of the US was covered with lawn grass**, which roughly translates to the entire state of Kentucky. A NASA scientist, Cristina Milesi, said that **lawn grass is the largest irrigated crop in the US**.

Residents of Maryland should be particularly concerned because of the high density of lawns in Maryland and the proximity of the state to the Chesapeake Bay. In Maryland, literally everything that drains into any water source eventually ends up in the Chesapeake Bay. With regard to lawns, this includes excess nutrients and toxic chemicals from herbicides and pesticides.

As homeowners, it is our responsibility to be concerned about the effects our lawn may be having on the surrounding environment.

What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

Beneath the even green appearance of a well-manicured lawn hide dirty secrets that threaten the health of the environment and the public. Not only do lawns come with a wide variety of negative consequences, including air, oil, nutrient, and chemical pollution, but they also come with a hefty price tag and a risk to human health.

An Unnecessary Economic Burden

According to F. Herbert Bromann, one of the authors of the book *Redesigning the American Lawn*, \$25 billion is spent on the lawn care industry. Of this amount, \$5.25 billion goes to purchasing fossil-fuel-derived fertilizers, and \$700 million goes to purchasing pesticides. Furthermore, 580 million gallons of gasoline are used for lawnmowers each year, which could otherwise be used to power our cars, thereby reducing our demand for foreign oil. **On an individual basis, the average price tag of a lawn per household is \$1000 per year. In an economic recession, why should you be paying that much for the grass outside your home?**

Is your lawn hurting the Chesapeake Bay Watershed?

Two of the greatest threats currently facing the Chesapeake Bay are nutrient pollution that leads to harmful algal blooms and chemical pollution that causes reproductive defects and death in fish and other animals. Both of these problems can be traced back to dangerous lawn maintenance practices.

Most fertilizer manufacturers suggest a 50% overuse per recommended unit area, compared to recommendations by soil scientists. Furthermore, most lawn owners fertilize their lawns more than the recommendations on the back of the fertilizer bag, just to “make sure” that their lawns are getting enough nutrients. This gross overuse of fertilizers on lawns is both a financial drain and an environmental catastrophe. While fertilizers used properly can enhance the quality of your lawn, **the lawn cannot take up excess fertilizer.** As a result, Junkin writes that **60% of the nitrogen applied to lawns in the form of fertilizer eventually ends up in the water.** In Maryland, all water sources

empty into the Chesapeake Bay, and these excesses of nitrogen and phosphorus cause harmful algal blooms to occur.

Nutrient pollution is not the only problem facing the Bay, however. Sam Greyhawk, an environmental advocate who writes blogs about environmental problems states that up to **40% of the pesticides used in the US are used for lawn maintenance and lawn owners use 3 times more pesticides per unit area than farmers use on their crops.** Pesticide overuse is a major concern because pesticides are toxic to humans and animals alike. Since excess pesticides, like excess fertilizer, end up running off lawns with stormwater, these toxic chemicals invariably end up in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The Public Health Realities of Lawns – Is Your Family at Risk?

A report by the National Academy of Sciences found that one in seven people have had negative health consequences from exposure to lawn pesticides, with the largest group being children. When 67 million pounds of pesticides are annually dumped on lawns across the United States, invariably some of these toxic chemicals will affect residents as well. Furthermore, an article called “Your Lethal Lawn” written by Bryan Smith and published in *Men’s Health* in 2010 cites a study by the Pesticide Action Network in America that found that test subjects had a shocking average of 13 pesticides in their blood and urine. Some of these pesticides included chlorpyrifos, which is associated with fetal mutation, and atrazine, which affects sperm motility.

10 Easy Ways You Can Minimize the Impacts of Your Lawn

- 1) **Change Your Mindset:** Frank Rossi, a grass researcher at Cornell University says that cutting the commercial lawn recommendations in half saves money, time, and is just as effective. Doing less can be more.
- 2) **Don't Mow Your Lawn as Often:** Keep your grass at about 4 inches long. Grass that is too short is more vulnerable to stress from both heat and drought. Keeping your grass longer will keep your lawn healthier and decrease the amount of watering it needs.
- 3) **Don't Overdo Fertilizing:** Never use more fertilizer than is recommended on the back of the product. Typically these estimates are already over-estimated and overuse of fertilizers not only ends up negatively affecting the Chesapeake Bay watershed but also weakens the root system of your lawn.
- 4) **Engage in Smarter Watering Practices:** Water less frequently but more substantially. Healthy lawns only need one sufficient watering (1 inch of water) a week. Also, water your lawn during the early morning when roots are best able to absorb available moisture.
- 5) **Use Less Pesticides to Eliminate the True Pests:** Many insect species that are killed by such pesticides actually benefit your lawn, while harmful pest insects quickly develop resistance. Applying less pesticide or switching over to a more eco-friendly product will lessen the impacts pesticides have on birds, bees, and animals.
- 6) **Don't Spray Herbicide Every Year:** Herbicides should only be used if there is an actual weed problem. Healthy lawns will out compete weeds naturally and herbicides do not need to be reapplied year after year.
- 7) **Consider Switching to Organic Lawn Care Products:** There are many organic products available on the market, such as organic fertilizers and pesticides that are equally effective but significantly less destructive to the surrounding ecosystem. Earth Easy and Eco Lawn are two companies that provide a number of environmentally friendly lawn products.
- 8) **Consider Reseeding Your Lawn with Native Grass Seeds:** The grass species typically used for lawns is actually from England, which explains why it requires so much maintenance in the United States. However, a number of companies, including Eco Lawn, are now making native grass seed mixtures for lawns. These grasses are better adapted for the North American environment and therefore are more resilient to pests and require less mowing and less watering.
- 9) **Stay Informed:** You are responsible for your lawn. Remember that staying informed about the dangers of some lawn care practices to the environment and to the community is your responsibility. There are a number of online groups and blogs devoted specifically to easing the transition to a more eco-friendly lawn.
- 10) **Talk to Your Neighbors:** Remember that while your lawn is in front of your house, the negative effects of lawn care are far-reaching and do not stop at the

curb. Talk to your neighbor about cutting down on pesticide and fertilizer use in order to make your community a safer place for all who live there.

Department of Public Works

Important reminders:

Leaf Collection:

Last day for leaf collection is January 7th, 2010.

Bulk Trash:

If you need to schedule pick up please call
Bates Trash: 301-773-2069

Snow Removal:

It would be appreciated if on days when expecting snow, residents park their cars in driveways. By doing this our crew can clear our streets in a timely fashion.

After the snow event you have 24 hours to clear the sidewalk, before being fined.

Please let us know if you any questions.
Thank you for your cooperation!



Departamento de Obras Públicas

Recordatorios Importante:

Último día para la recolección de hojas será 7 de Enero de 2010.

Basura Abultada

Si necesitas programar un recogido de basura favor de llamar a Bates Trash (301)-773-2069

Remoción de Nieve:

Apreciaremos que en los día que hay aviso de de nieve, los residentes estacione sus caros en la subida de los garajes. A quitar los carros de la calle, esto nos ayuda para abrir las calles.

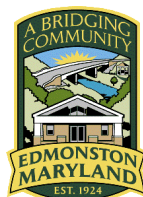
A igual deseamos recordarles que tiene hasta 24 horas de finalizar la nevada para limpiar las aceras

Si tiene duda, comuníquese con nosotros.
¡Gracias por su cooperación!





Town of Edmonston
Cordially Invites You to Our
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
December 22nd, 2010 from
6:00pm to 9:00pm at
The Edmonston Town Hall,
5005 52nd Ave,
Edmonston, Maryland



Town of Edmonston
Cordialmente te invita a su
FIESTIVIDADES ANNUAL
El 22 de Diciembre de 2010 desde
las 6:00pm hasta 9:00pm en la
Alcaldía de Edmonston
5005 52nd Ave,
Edmonston, Maryland





Berwyn Heights Elementary School

6200 Pontiac Street
Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740

Senator Pinsky's Town Hall Meeting

- **Maryland State Senator Paul G. Pinsky will share a legislative update.**
- Saving money on your gas and electric bills: Presentation on reducing your energy consumption.
- Information on avoiding foreclosures.
- Time will also be set aside to hear from you!

Mark your calendar and bring your family and neighbors.
For more information call 240-391-8154 or email ppinsky@senatorpinsky.org.

Saturday
12/11/10
10 AM – 11:30 AM

From New Carrollton:

Drive west on Good Luck Rd., then turn right onto Kenilworth Ave., and left onto Pontiac Street.

From West (Hyattsville):

Drive east on Route 410 (East West Hwy) Turn left (north) onto Kenilworth Ave, and left onto Pontiac Street. The school will be on the right.

Town of Edmonston
5005 52nd Avenue
Edmonston, MD. 20781

PRS RT STD
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Hyattsville, MD

ECRWSS

Noticias en Español ***

December Calendar

December 13 th	Council Meeting
December 22 nd	Holiday Party
December 23 rd	Closed @ Noon
December 24 th	Closed
December 31 st .	Closed

Directory: edmonstonmd.gov (301)-699-8806

Mayor Adam Ortiz 301 277-6052
mayorortiz@edmonstonmd.gov

Council Members-Ward 1
Betsy McCauley 240 375-0883
bmccauley@edmonstonmd.gov
Tracy Farrish 240 821-4269
tfarrish@edmonstonmd.gov

Council Members-Ward 2
Lynta Giddens 301 437-2326
lgiddens@edmonstonmd.gov
Robert Kerns 301 467-3488
bkerns@edmonstonmd.gov

Town Administrator
Guy Tiberio 301 699-8806
Cell Phone 240 375-8902
gtiberio@edmonstonmd.gov

Town Hall townhall@edmonstonmd.gov
Public Works
edmpublicworks@edmonstonmd.gov
Code Enforcement
edmcodeenforc@edmonstonmd.gov

For Police Emergency, dial 911
Non-Emergency (Dispatch) 301 333-4000
Crime Hotline
edmcrimehotline@edmonstonmd.gov

Police Department 301 699-8805
Chief Walker swalker@edmonstonmd.gov

PG County Council Member
Andrea Harrison 301 952-3864
acharrison@co.pg.md.us

Foreclosures help 1877-462-7555
www.mdhope.org
Bladensburg Fire Dept 301 883-7709
www.BV9FD.com
Bates Trash/ Bulk Trash 301 773-2069
Call-A- Bus 301 499-8603
Comcast Cable 301 731-4260
PEPCO 202 833-7500
Power outages 1877-737-2662
Wire Down Emergency 202 872-3432
Wash Gas Co 703 750-1000
If you smell gas 703 750-1400
WSSC 301 206-9772
Emergency 301 206-4002
Verizon Fios 1-888-881-8161